

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE Contact: Kasey Bensinger
Date: November 24, 2003 Phone: 919/733-5612

EASLEY REAPPOINTS FOUR TO CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS COMMISSION

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley has reappointed **Dr. Joshua Alexander** of Chapel Hill, **Cora Mitchell-Hayes** of Raleigh, **Sally Clark Swoop** of Raleigh and **Dr. Lynn Mowbray Wegner** of Chapel Hill to the Commission on Children with Special Health Care Needs.

Alexander is an assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also heads a transitional care service for children with acquired disabilities admitted to UNC hospitals. Alexander has been a commission member since 2002. He helped develop North Carolina's State Children's Health Insurance Program for children with special health care needs. He received his bachelor's degree from Brandeis University, attended Temple University School of Medicine and completed his residency at Baylor College of Medicine.

Mitchell-Hayes has been a commission member since 1999. She is director of elementary special education for Wake County Public School System and a North Carolina program specialist. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and her master's degree in education from East Carolina University.

Sloop is a family support specialist at the North Carolina Partnership for Children. She has been a commission member since 1998. Sloop has worked as a regional inclusion specialist for Partnerships for Inclusion and as a statewide parent-to-parent coordinator for the Family Support Network of North Carolina. She received her bachelor's degree from Wheelock College and her master's degrees from Boston University and Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Wegner is an adjunct associate clinical professor of pediatrics at Duke University Medical Center. She has been a commission member since 2002. Wegner also serves on the Pediatric Interest Group on children with learning and attention problems. She received her bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts and her doctorate from the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine.

The commission is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the availability and provision of health services to special needs children in North Carolina and under the Health Insurance Program for Children. There are eight members on the commission, each serving a two-year term. The governor appoints all members.

###